

Climate Action Committee Minutes for September 13th, 2021

In attendance: Ellen Greer, Kait Logan, Roberta Longley, Cheryl Gayle, Roy Merolli, Rich Bienvenue

Start time: 5:00 pm

Minutes

- August 9th, 2021 minutes delayed due to videos not being posted.

Town Staff Liaison Update (*Rich Bienvenue*)

- Moving forward with Round 6 of Solar RFP. Going out in October and responses will be collected. This will be for the solar projects previously discussed (DPW, police dept, town hall, and transfer station, etc.). This Fall a decision will be made once responses have been collected.
- Green Communities update: Department of Energy Resources who evaluates the application had follow up questions on the application. Everything has now been answered/updated and we should have the designation soon.
- Eastham was part of a state announcement for Coastal Climate Change Funding. We received as we are part of the Municipal Vulnerabilities Preparedness Grant Program. This primarily focuses on the low lying road issue. Shana Brogan is leading this for the town. There is nothing specific associated with this. A portion will be used for continuing the low lying road assessment that the outer cape communities are collectively working on.

Work Partners Update

- Kait and Ellen were unable to connect regarding outreach and education.
- Devon and Roberta discussed big picture reduction of carbon footprint. Two main topics were discussed:
 - Taking a look at examples of regional and municipal plans correlating to climate action, both in terms of mitigation and adaptation. They agreed they would spend some time reviewing the Cape Cod Commission's 200-page climate action plan that was released over the summer.
 - Devon brought up the point that we need an easily accessible platform/archive where collected information can live. Example: google doc shared by group, a spot on the town website where important documents that impact the town can be uploaded and shared with the public.
 - Roberta spent time going through the powerpoint on green house emissions, that Truro's Chair shared with us. Roberta felt we should continue to learn more from Truro, about how they did that, and decide if it is something we can do. We all agreed this could provide us with a good understanding of the baseline of where we stand with emissions as an entire town.
- Roy and Cheryl discussed how our committee could best contribute to the work happening on the new Town Center/T-Time/Senior Center Property. A document was shared with the group. It included background information on how the town is approaching the development of the town plaza. The second part is how we might be able to contribute our recommendations for the project.
 - The group brainstormed how we think this best be approached, both how we would *like* to insert ourselves, but also what is the expectation from the town. i.e. recommendation vs. formal application. This was discussed in length, and the video should be referenced for more detail.

Outer Cape Climate Group Update

- Devon and Cheryl attended. Devon felt it was definitely worthwhile for us to attend. A lot of topics came up that made sense as a regional effort rather than a town effort.

- Cheryl mentioned that Wellfleet has a climate curriculum that we may be able to reference in our outreach and education efforts.

Committee Liaisons

Cheryl — T-Time
Kait — CPC, Open Space
Roberta — TBD
Ellen — Recycling
Roy — Finance
Devon — TBD

Other Business — ACTION ITEMS

- Devon asked that we all think about where we interact with information as Eastham residents to help us come up with the best place to reach the public and make an impact.
- Cheryl asked that we provide her with any personal thoughts that we want to provide to the select board regarding the town center.

Next Meeting

- Scheduled for **October 18th, 2021 at 5pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Kait Logan